

Her grade point average has soared to 3.79, which was commendable, given her responsibilities.

Ms. Tyler's plans beyond high school include college with her sights set on a degree in Business Administration, then on to graduate school to pursue her MBA. You see all those years in FBLA and SGA have paid off because they have motivated her to think about her future. She has a dream of owning her own business. I am proud to have Ms. Tyler as a citizen of the Second Congressional District of Mississippi.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Ms. Mary Ann Tyler, an amazing student for her dedication to succeed.

COMMEMORATING MT. VERNON'S
ZIP CODE DAY

HON. BRUCE L. BRALEY

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 2014

Mr. BRALEY of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mt. Vernon, Iowa, as they commemorate May 23, 2014 (5-23-14) as zip code day.

Historic Mount Vernon, Iowa, is home to 4500 residents, including 1200 college students enrolled at Cornell College. Located in Eastern Iowa, the city boasts a vibrant uptown business community with numerous antique and specialty stores, restaurants, coffee houses, commercial art galleries, and three National Historic Districts.

Mt. Vernon also has a proud history of firsts in our nation's history including having one of the country's first curbside recycling programs and first community-designed and built playgrounds.

I am proud to have the opportunity to represent 52314 in Congress and applaud Mt. Vernon for achieving so much in the proud 177 years since the first settlers arrived in 1837.

HONORING THE 2014 AMHERST
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE SMALL
BUSINESS AWARD RECIPIENTS

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 2014

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize the honorees of the Amherst Chamber of Commerce's Small Business Awards Luncheon and Showcase here today. Each business/business leader has done their part to lead by example, demonstrating leadership in the business community and a shared dedication to improving the economic conditions of our region. As small businesses, they are in a unique position to not only push the community forward through job growth, but also to test drive new products and ways of doing business that will no doubt have a lasting impact in the world around us.

With a motto of "We Want Better", Block Club has been working on improving not only their customers' brands, but also strengthening the brand of the entire Western New York (WNY) area. Being featured in such pub-

lications as the Boston Herald and the Washington Post, Block Club has demonstrated to the rest of the country some of the outstanding work accomplished right here at home. I commend this year's Trailblazer Award recipient, Patrick Finan, Founder & Principal of Block Club.

Another individual being honored today is Maureen Munzert from Key Bank. Maureen has utilized her expertise in financing and the banking industries to better serve her clients and her strong record of accomplishments have led her to being recognized here today. Maureen's ability to go beyond a banking role and truly become a financial partner to her clients is exemplary. Her dedication to guidance and leadership is expressed not only in leading junior members of her team, but also her being a champion of the Key4Women sub-organization. I am pleased to recognize this year's Small Business Advocate of the Year, Maureen Munzert.

Dr. Lavigne is another individual who has had a great impact on the community. As a leader of many business support programs in the WNY region, not to mention her stewardship of the NYS Center of Excellence in Bioinformatics and Life Sciences, Dr. Lavigne has driven economic returns of over 60:1. This incredible stewardship of governmental funding has seen hundreds of new jobs created and demonstrated Dr. Lavigne's excellence in utilizing public funds for the public good. It is my honor to recognize Dr. Marnie Lavigne as this year's Community Stewardship Award recipient.

EnergyMark is a company which is leading the way in being an active business community member. Through model leadership, EnergyMark has helped countless aspiring community leaders through internships at both the undergraduate and master's level programs. Furthermore, in creating their space in the market, EnergyMark is allowing its customer to grow faster through innovative savings that have kept over 5 million dollars in the hands of local business for their own growth and development. I commend this year's Award of Excellence recipient, Energy Mark, LLC.

One of the newest additions to our city will be the HARBORCENTER facility opening later this year. The culmination of many proud accomplishments, the HARBORCENTER will provide 2 NHL sized hockey rinks and numerous support facilities around the venue including a hotel, restaurants, and training facilities which will compliment the development occurring on our waterfront. This project will be an attraction for families in our region and beyond and will boost the economic conditions of Downtown Buffalo. Under the leadership of John Koelmel, the HARBORCENTER is likely to generate nearly 2,000 jobs and a projected \$48 million dollars in state and local taxes. I applaud the work of all those involved with the HARBORCENTER project and congratulate you on your Sponsor's Award from the Amherst Chamber of Commerce.

Lougen Valenti Bookbinder & Weintraub LLP are actively working to redefine how a CPA firm can be a part of the community. Balancing an approach of personal attention and national firm level resources, LVBW has pooled over 100 collective years of experience to serve clients from single employee businesses to multi-national corporations. While this alone is a tremendous accomplishment,

the team at LVBW pushes further, encouraging employee volunteerism and providing assistance to such notable local charities as the WNY Foodbank, United Way Day of Caring, and Journey's End. I am pleased to recognize Lougen Valenti Bookbinder & Weintraub, LLP as the recipient of the Small Business of the Year Award.

Sweet Jenny's chocolates and ice cream has been a great story of success here in WNY and will soon reach its 30th year in business. In using a "charity based business model" Sweet Jenny's has utilized corporate giving to promote their brand on a local level and to provide ice cream and products to charity organizations and local food banks. I had the pleasure of visiting Sweet Jenny's and can attest the strength of their business and outreach in the community. It is my honor to commend this year's At Your Service Award recipient, Sweet Jenny's.

This impressive list of Small Businesses being honored at this year's Luncheon and Showcase deserve the extra recognition and I thank the Amherst Chamber of Commerce for bringing these distinguished business leaders together. It is through your actions that other business leaders have a guidepost for exemplary action. I wish you all continued success in the years to come.

RECOGNIZING HONORABLE JAMES
D. GREGG FOR 27 YEARS OF
SERVICE AS A BANKRUPTCY
JUDGE

HON. BILL HUIZENGA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 2014

Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Honorable James D. Gregg and his commendable service to Michigan's Western District as a bankruptcy judge.

Judge Gregg served Michigan's Western District as a United States bankruptcy judge for 27 years. Further, his service to the state has been a long time commitment, as he has worked for Michigan communities for over 30 years.

After graduating from Wayne State University with his Juris Doctor, Judge Gregg chose to remain in Michigan to practice. He served as a partner of Varnum, Riddering, and Schmidt & Howlett in Grand Rapids, Michigan. In 1987, Judge Gregg was designated in The Best Lawyers in America. From 1995 to 2003, Judge Gregg worked with the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges, ultimately serving as the organizations president from 2002-2003.

Throughout his career, Judge Gregg has been committed to educating students and practitioners about bankruptcy law. From 1994-1997, Judge Gregg served as an adjunct professor and taught bankruptcy law courses at The Thomas Cooley Law School. He has also been an education chair, a speaker, or a panelist at more than one hundred and fifty educational seminars for bar associations and professional organizations throughout the United States. In 2013, the Bankruptcy Section of the Federal Bar Association for the Western District of Michigan inaugurated the "James D. Gregg Bankruptcy